

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**January 9, 2007 MINUTES**

On Tuesday, January 9, 2007, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 10:00 AM with Commissioners David Schulz, Lewis Stahl and Jim Hart present.

Lewis Stahl moved to approve the January 2, 2007, minutes as corrected. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Barbie Durham, Brandy Hilton, Mark Olson, Chris Christensen, Christopher Mumme, Karen Stirling, Bruce Stirling, Jack C. Hardy, Jeanne Hardy, Laurie Schmidt, and Kimberley Johnson.

**Weed Board Appointment:** The Board received a letter from former Commissioner, Ted Coffman, stating his interest to serve on the Madison County Weed Board. Jim Hart moved to appoint Ted to serve as a Weed Board member representing the Madison District. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Grants:** Jim Hart moved to appropriate CTEP funds for restoration of the exterior of Robber's Roost for approximately \$26,000. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All vote aye and the motion carried. Lewis Stahl moved to accept funding in the amount of \$14,400 for the Lions Park Improvements Project. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Barbie Durham, Grant Writer, mentioned that Leanne DeFrance from Harrison is working on a park project for the town of Harrison and that the Virginia City Preservation grant is closed out.

**Moore's Creek R.I.D:** Brandy Hilton, Department of Revenue, and her Supervisor, Mark Olsen, approached the Board with a boundary adjustment that Stores Bishop has made. Brandy asked the Board, if a resolution were drafted, would the district boundary remain where it is or would it be moved and where would the RID be placed? Jim Hart stated that more information was needed before making a decision and that he would contact Stores Bishop and Dave Hajny. Mark thought it might be a good idea to remind the Clerk & Recorder and the Planner of RID's when reviewing plats.

**Resolution for Meeting Dates:** Jim Hart moved approve Resolution 4-2007 stating that, beginning January 2, 2007, regular Commission meetings will be held on each Tuesday unless otherwise noticed. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**The Following Item was Tabled:** Commissioner Liaison to County Boards.

**Resolution setting Travel Rates/Per Diem:** Lewis Stahl moved to approve Resolution 3-2007 setting reimbursements rates at 48.5 cents per mile for the first 1,000 miles of travel within each month and the rate for over 1,000 miles is three cents less (45.5 cents) per mile; In-State Per Diem Rates are \$5.00 for the morning meal, \$6.00 for the mid-day meal, and \$12.00 for the evening meal, being a total of \$23.00 per day, and Out-of-State Per Diem Rates are \$7.00 for the morning meal, \$11.00 for the mid-day meal, and \$18.00 for the evening meal, being a total of \$36.00 per day; and that the In-State lodging reimbursement rate is \$60.00 plus tax, except for those communities on the attached list. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Public Discussion:** Christopher Mumme, Director of Emergency Management, had some concerns about driving the Emergency Management vehicle to Billings on January 21, 2007, for the NIMS Training. David Schulz suggested he take one of the county cars.

Jack Rientz stopped by to pick up encroachment permits.

**Winter Maintenance Cliff and Wade Lake:** Present for this portion of the meeting were Karen and Bruce Stirling, Jack and Jeanne Hardy, Laurie Schmidt and Kimberley Johnson. Bruce and Karen Sterling and Kimberley Johnson proposed to the Board to amend the snowmobile only ordinance going up to Cliff and Wade Lakes. Their arguments included that they have two teenage boys they need to get to school and an 83 year old father who lives with them that they

may have to get out in case of a medical emergency. They are proposing that the County do maintenance for the first 2.2 miles on Madison River Ranch Road. Jim Hart stated that it would be difficult to get to that end of the county for scheduled maintenance because the county has priority routes that have to be taken care of first.

David Schulz stated that in order to keep up scheduled maintenance the County would have to have a grader on site at all times and, considering the budget, it is not feasible. David also said the Madison River Ranch code states that it is not possible to grant permission to maintain the road privately because of:

1. Weather conditions could possibly close the road almost immediately after the road was cleared. This leaves the prospect that uninformed individuals could be unwittingly trapped and be placed in jeopardy of their safety.
2. The ordinance remains in place today.
3. The mechanics of allowing a private individual to conduct maintenance operations on a public road is untenable from the point of liability exposure and supervision of the work.

At this point in the discussion the District 3 Road Supervisor and Commissioner, Jim Hart, stated that he would stick with the ordinance that is in place. Kimberley wanted to go on the record stating that she would like to know “what it would take to change the ordinance”. Jim stated that he wasn’t sure of the process but said there are steps that can be taken.

**Staff Meeting:** Due to the absence of Colleen Guinnane, Custodian, for medical leave, David Schulz asked staff members for their help when leaving the Courthouse at night to make sure the Courthouse is secure by double checking that all lights are shut off and all doors are locked. He also stated that if something comes up that needs the attention of Roger Staley, Maintenance, to give him a call, leave him a message, or call the Commissioners. Commissioner Schulz said he is hopeful that Colleen will return to work shortly and that she has done an outstanding job with her duties in the past. David Schulz also asked Courthouse staff if, while we have one employee that has had surgery and another one that will be having surgery, they would leave a few parking spots just below the handicap parking to accommodate these two employees so they have easier access to the building.

David Schulz asked the staff if they would offer their input on how they thought the election went on the Court House and the new Law and Justice Center and if they had any suggestions or ideas to improve it. One common thought as to why it didn’t pass was lack of knowledge to the public. David said the main goal is to make sure that the people of Madison County fully understand the project. Peggy Kaatz, Clerk & Recorder, suggested getting other elected officials from the county involved in talking to the public about the project during public presentations. Several stated concern of the misconception of the Law and Justice Center being a prison rather than a detention center. Brandy Hilton, Department of Revenue, suggested inviting law enforcement personnel from Broadwater County that have made the transition to their facilities to speak at forums to inform the public on the benefits it has had to their community. An informational letter and questionnaire will be sent out to all voters in Madison County asking various questions about the project and requesting comments, concerns, and any ideas they might have. An 800 phone number will also be available to receive public input. Shelley Burke, Treasurer, suggested attaching information to each tax statement regarding what the additional cost would be to individual taxpayers if the project were to pass.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Minutes prepared by:

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David Schulz, Chairman  
Board of Madison County Commissioners

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Janie Alt

Date Approved: January 23, 2007

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Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County